

September 8-10, 2012

Please note that news sites update their hyperlinks, so it is advised that articles of interest be read soon as they might not be accessible later.

**The Detroit News: GOP, Dems gear up for election; State parties finalize high court candidates as some issues expose divisions within ranks**

"The Michigan Republican and Democratic parties geared up over the weekend for heated Nov. 6 general election battles at separate state conventions, finalizing matchups in what's expected to be an expensive race for three Supreme Court seats."

[Full story](#)

***Also see:***

**The Detroit News: Michigan GOP picks Oakland's O'Brien for Supreme Court race**

[Full story](#)

**The Detroit News: Michigan Dems pick three women to run for state Supreme Court**

[Full story](#)

**Detroit Free Press: State GOP, Dems select candidates [last] weekend**

[Full story](#)

**Detroit Free Press: Oakland County judge wins tight race for GOP nomination to state Supreme Court**

[Full story](#)

**Detroit Free Press: Michigan Democrats pick 3 as high court candidates**

[Full story](#)

**Associated Press: Markman, Zahra, O'Brien get GOP nods for court**

[Full story](#)

**Associated Press: Mich. Dems pick 3 women as high court candidates**

[Full story](#)

**The Michigan Lawyer Blog: Dems, GOP select MSC candidates at weekend conventions**

[Full story](#)

**MLive.com: Michigan GOP adds Judge Colleen O'Brien to Supreme Court ballot, ousts state Board of Education member Nancy Danhof**

[Full story](#)

**MLive.com: Democrats officially nominate candidates to run for Michigan Supreme Court**

[Full story](#)

**MLive.com: Matthew Davis: Nasty emails, robocalls drag race for GOP Supreme Court nomination into the mud**

[Full story](#)

**WLNS-TV(6)/Lansing: GOP, Democrats Hold State Conventions**

[Full story](#)

**WILX-TV(10)/Lansing: Democrats Select Three Women For State Supreme Court As Convention Closes**

[Full story](#)

## **Detroit Free Press: Morouns give Michigan Supreme Court justices maximum donations to campaigns**

"Four Moroun family members each maxed out their political donations to the only two Michigan Supreme Court justices campaigning for re-election, as certification was pending for their ballot proposal aimed at blocking a new bridge to Canada and preserving their monopoly on toll bridges over the Detroit River."

[Full story](#)

**Also see:**

## **Associated Press: Correction: Moroun Family-Donations story**

[Full story](#)

## **The Detroit News: State canvassers finalize six initiatives for Nov. ballot**

"Michiganians will vote on six ballot proposals Nov. 6 after petitions passed final hurdles before the Board of State Canvassers on Friday.... The board's action ended months of legal wrangling and came two days after the Michigan Supreme Court ordered three measures to be put on the ballot."

[Full story](#)

**Also see:**

## **WJR 760 AM/Detroit: Justice Brian Zahra: Supreme Court Justice wrote opinion on approving 3 ballot issues (10:54 minute podcast)**

[Full story](#)

## **Associated Press: Board of State Canvassers approves ballot measures**

[Full story](#)

## **Daily Press & Argus: Six ballot proposals finalized for voters**

[Full story](#)

## **The News-Herald/Southgate: POLI-TICKER: Three proposals made November ballot, one didn't**

[Full story](#)

## **The Oakland Press: Role of emergency managers in the hands of voters**

[Full story](#)

## **Lansing State Journal: Editorial: Michigan high court gives the people their say**

[Full story](#)

**\*This article is available only by subscription.**

## **The Detroit News: Lawsuit charges Troy violated Open Meetings Act**

"Union activist Robert Davis is suing the Troy City Council over its city manager selection process, saying it violated the state's Open Meetings Act. Davis filed a lawsuit Friday in Oakland County Circuit Court as Citizens United Against Corrupt Governments, a nonprofit group he created. He accuses the Troy council of winnowing down the field of candidates for a new city manager from 19 to 5 in a closed session."

[Full story](#)

**Also see:**

## **Detroit Free Press: Union advocate sues Troy council over closed meeting**

[Full story](#)

## **The Detroit News: Lesbian couple challenges Michigan's marriage law**

"A lesbian couple already battling the state's ban on second-parent adoptions by unmarried couples has expanded their legal fight to tackle Michigan's marriage amendment."

[Full story](#)

## **The Detroit News: In Facebook court cases, high tech and free speech collide**

" 'Like' the First Amendment? Then prepare for a fight, as courts and employers figure out whether a simple click on Facebook deserves free speech protection. It's 21st-century technology meets an 18th-century Constitution, and the real-world implications are starting to erupt."

[Full story](#)

### **Detroit Legal News: Northern exposure: Bay City federal court gets its day in the sun**

"A capacity crowd filled every seat in the historic Bay City federal court on Sept. 4. Two television stations, several photographers and print media members also were on hand. But the crowds were not there to hear testimony in a stunning trial, but rather for rededication ceremonies on the courthouse's recent renovations."

[Full story](#)

### **Detroit Legal News: State Bar Annual Meeting set for Sept. 19-21**

"... On Thursday, Sept. 20, Michigan Supreme Court Chief Justice Robert P. Young will swear in the 78th president of the State Bar, Bruce A. Courtade, and other officers during the Inaugural Luncheon. In addition, Michigan Court of Appeals Judge Michael J. Riordan will swear in the 2012-2013 chair of the Representative Assembly, Dana M. Warnez, and the Michael Franck and Unsung Hero awards will be presented at its business meeting."

[Full story](#)

### **Jackson County Legal News: Michigan Judges Association's Hilda Gage Award winner named**

"Judge James C. Kingsley of the 37th Circuit Court (Calhoun County) is the 2012 recipient of the Michigan Judges Association's Hilda Gage Award for Judicial Excellence, MJA President Timothy G. Hicks announced."

[Full story](#)

### **Jackson County Legal News: Assembly to honor three award winners on Sept. 20**

"The State Bar of Michigan Representative Assembly will present its Michael Franck and Unsung Hero awards to three outstanding members of the legal community on Thursday, Sept. 20, 2012 at DeVos Place in Grand Rapids.... Judge James H. Fisher has won the Michael Franck award. As Barry County Circuit Court judge from 1995 to 2011, he transformed the court into a model for the state."

[Full story](#)

**Note: The Jackson County Legal News article also ran in the Washtenaw County Legal News.**

### **Macomb County Legal News: Judge assembles staff, adjusts to federal system**

"... President Barack Obama nominated [Wayne County Circuit Judge Gershwin] Drain to the post in November 2011 and his confirmation had been delayed since a 10-6 vote in his favor on the Senate Judiciary Committee in March."

[Full story](#)

### **Motion Magazine: A STAND-UP JUDGE: Jurist stays in touch with her lighter side**

"A 22-year veteran of the bench, Kent County Judge Sara Smolenski has plenty of 'pearls of wisdom' to share with youngsters who visit her courtroom.... The judge, a former basketball hotshot in high school and college, learned the lesson all too well during a game at the University of Michigan, her alma mater, more than three decades ago."

[Full story](#)

### **Motion Magazine: LINKED IN: Judges complete their course work in Ireland**

"To offer an idea of how challenging the wind-swept golf courses of northwest Ireland can be, Washtenaw County Trial Court Judge David Swartz reports that for a 10-day tour of eight courses, he took along three dozen golf balls. And returned home with one."

[Full story](#)

### **The Oakland Press: Liberty Tree will be planted at Oakland County Circuit Court building on Sept. 11**

"Oakland County will plant Michigan's first 'Liberty Tree' in a patriotic ceremony in the south courtyard of the Oakland County Circuit Court building at noon Tuesday, Sept. 11, in recognition of the 11th anniversary of the 9/11 terrorist attacks and as part of Patriot Week activities. The Hon. Michael Warren, Oakland County circuit judge and co-founder of Patriot Week, and Chief Deputy County Executive Gerald Poisson, on behalf of hospitalized County Executive L. Brooks Patterson, will take part in the event."

[Full story](#)

**Also see:**

### **Oakland County Legal News: County to plant state's first 'Liberty Tree'**

[Full story](#)

### **Press & Guide/Dearborn: Wayne State Law panel discussion will focus on banning Sharia, other foreign laws in American courts**

"Wayne State University Law School experts will tackle questions related to the application of foreign or international law during the panel discussion 'Keeping Foreign Law Out of State Courts: The Movement to Ban Sharia and Other International and Foreign Laws,' at 12:15 p.m. Sept. 11, in the Spencer M. Partrich Auditorium at Wayne Law."

[Full story](#)

### **Washtenaw County Legal News: Peacekeeping court in Washtenaw County?**

"As a Washtenaw County Probate Court attorney working for a judge who handles probate and domestic cases, Teresa Killeen has seen more than her fair share of heated family fights.... That's why Killeen is so excited that Washtenaw County is being considered nationally as a pilot site for establishing a peacekeeping court within the family law division of the court."

[Full story](#)

### **Washtenaw County Legal News: 'No place like it' DRC opens in new location**

"... The [Dispute Resolution Center] handles small claims cases referred by all three district courts in Washtenaw County, and domestic relations and probate cases referred by circuit court. If not for the DRC mediation, most of those cases would need to go to court for a decision from a judge or magistrate.... Washtenaw County District Court Judge Cedric Simpson said the DRC saves the county a lot of money, and the courts, a lot of traffic."

[Full story](#)